

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5703

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONO

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

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DAO/ SAIGON/AOSOP-OR

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 6 SAIGON 7732

E.O. 11652: GDFJTAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, VS
SUBJECT: VIET-NAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT JUNE 5 - JUNE 11, 1974

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART I - SUMMARY

1. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR 1 DECREASED SLIGHTLY. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, 1ST ARVN DIVISION ELEMENTS RECAPTURED HILL 300 SOUTH OF PHU BAI WHICH HAD BEEN LOST TO THE COMMUNISTS IN EARLY APRIL. COMBAT SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS WAS CONCENTRATED IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE. FIGHTING ALSO DECLINED SLIGHTLY IN THE BINH DINH AREA IN MR 2 WHILE REMAINING ACTIVE IN THE HIGHLANDS. THE AREA AROUND PLEIKU CITY WAS SHELLED ON JUNE 10. MR 3 REMAINED ACTIVE WITH MOST FIGHTING CONTINUING IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE. COMMUNIST ELEMENTS CONTINUED TO TERRORIZE RESETTLEMENT AREAS IN LONG KHANH PROVINCE; BURNING ABOUT 50 HOUSES IN ONE HAMLET AND ABDUCTING APPROXIMATELY 80 CIVILIANS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE. WHILE STILL THE MOST ACTIVE REGION IN THE COUNTRY, MR 4 SAW THE LEVEL OF COMBAT DECLINE SLIGHTLY. THE RVN DELEGATION ANNOUNCED THE COMPLETE RESTORATION OF THE VARIOUS PRIVILEGES GRANTED TO THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS ON JUNE 7. THE NLF ATTENDED THE JUNE 11 TPJMC SESSION, BUT INDICATED THEY WOULD NOT RETURN TO THE TPJMC SUB-COMMITTEE OR FPJMT SESSIONS UNTIL JUNE 13. THE HUNGARIAN AND POLISH ICCS DELEGATIONS EVACUATED SUB-REGIONAL TEAM SITES IN MR 3 ON JUNE 10, ALLEGING THEY ARE UNSAFE.

PART II - TPJMC (UNCLASSIFIED)

1. BRIGADIER GENERAL HIEP, CHIEF OF THE RVN DELEGATION TO THE TPJMC, ANNOUNCED JUNE 7 THAT THE GVN WAS GOING TO RESTORE THE VARIOUS PRIVILEGES TO THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS IN THE HOPE THAT THESE PARTIES WOULD THEN RETURN TO THE TPJMC AND FPJMT FORUMS. THE GVN MOVED TO IMMEDIATELY RESTORE THE TELEPHONE LINES TO CONFIDENTIAL

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DAVIS STATION, OFFERED TO PERMIT THE REGULAR SATURDAY PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE COMMUNISTS ON JUNE 8 AND THE REGULAR SAIGON-LOC NINH LIAISON FLIGHT FOR JUNE 10.

2. DURING THE SATURDAY PRESS CONFERENCE, THE NLF SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED THAT THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS WOULD RETURN TO THE TPJMC AND THE FPJMT; HOWEVER, NLF PARTICIPATION IN THE TALKS IN PARIS WOULD NOT BE RESUMED UNTIL THERE IS A RESPONSE BY THE

RVN TO THE COMMUNIST "SIX POINTS".

3. THE NLF DELEGATION DID NOT ACCEPT THE PROFERRED FLIGHT TO LOC NINH ON JUNE 10. ON JUNE 11, THEY ATTENDED ONLY THE TPJMC, WHERE THEY ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WOULD NOT RESUME THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE FPJMT AND THE TPJMC SUB-COMMITTEES UNTIL JUNE 13. DURING THE COURSE OF THE TPJMC SESSION, THE NLF DELEGATION REJECTED THE RVN/POSITION RESTORING PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES AS A "UNILATERAL" ACTION INSISTING THAT THESE POINTS ARE OBLIGATORY ON THE RVN UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

PART III - FPJMT (SEE TPJMC)

PART IV - ICCS (UNCLASSIFIED)

THE HUNGARIAN AND POLISH DELEGATIONS EVACUATED TWO SUB-REGIONAL TEAM SITES, CU CHI AND LAM SON (BEN CAT AREA), ON JUNE 10, ALLEGING THEY ARE UNSAFE. THE INDONESIANS AND IRANIANS REMAINED. IN BIEN HOA THE INDONESIANS STATE THAT THE SHORTAGE OF GASOLINE RESULTING FROM ICCS ECONOMY MEASURES HAS CONTRIBUTED TO INHIBITING INVESTIGATIONS. THE GVN, SUSPECTING FUEL LEAKS TO THE COMMUNISTS, HAS FORBIDDEN THE ICCS TO DELIVER ANY MORE FUEL TO THE BEN HET TEAM SITE IN "PRG" CONTROLLED TERRITORY UNLESS THE SITE IS ACTUALLY OCCUPIED BY ICCS DELEGATES. POLISH DELEGATION AMBASSADOR FIJALKOWSKI IS DUE BACK IN SAIGON JUNE 12 AFTER CONSULTATION IN WARSAW.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 6 SAIGON 7732

PART V - MR 1

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

ACCORDING TO I CORPS HEADQUARTERS, THERE WERE 124 COMMUNIST CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS LAST WEEK. THIS FIGURE REFLECTS SOME REDUCTION IN FIGHTING SINCE THE AVERAGE FOR THE LAST THREE WEEKS HAS BEEN 170 VIOLATIONS. HOWEVER, SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING CONTINUED IN QUANG TIN AND VNAF PROVIDED COMBAT AIR STRIKES FOR THE FIFTH WEEK IN SUCCESSION IN SUPPORT OF ARVN COUNTERATTACKS IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE. GVN CASUALTIES: 67 KIA, 369 WIA. NVA/VC LOSSES: 215 KIA, 1 RETURNEE.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

THERE WAS NO MILITARY ACTIVITY OF NOTE ALONG THE QUANG TRI FRONT. ON JUNE 4 IN SOUTHERN THUA THIEN PROVINCE ELEMENTS OF THE 3RD REGT OF THE 1ST ARVN INF. DIVISION RECAPTURED HILL 300 WHICH WAS LOST TO THE ENEMY IN EARLY APRIL. NEIGHBORING HILL 273

REMAINS UNSECURED.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

IN QUANG NAM THERE WAS A DECLINE IN BOTH ENEMY ACTIVITIES AND IN CONTACTS WITH THE ENEMY MADE BY FRIENDLY TROOPS. CASUALTIES CAUSED BY ENEMY MINES, HOWEVER, CONTINUED TO BE SIGNIFICANT. THERE WERE 24 MINE INCIDENTS DURING THE WEEK.

4. IN QUANG TIN ELEMENTS OF THE 2ND INF. DIVISION CONTINUED TO HOLD THE TIEN PHUOC-TAM KY ROAD WHILE ATTEMPTING TO RETAKE TERRITORY IN THE AREA LOST TO THE ENEMY SINCE THE INITIAL COMMUNIST ATTACK ON MAY 4. ON JUNE 9 ARVN REPORTED REOCCUPYING HILL 218, 12 KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF TAM KY. GVN CLAIMED 1 KIA AND 1 WIA AGAINST 45 ENEMY KIA. (VNAF AIR STRIKES WERE THE MAIN CAUSE OF HIGH ENEMY CASUALTY FIGURES IN THE AREA.) THE SECTOR INTELLIGENCE OFFICER REPORTS THAT 1,700 CIVILIANS REPORTED MISSING IN THE LOSS OF KY TRA VILLAGE HAVE BEEN MOVED SOUTH TO KY YEN VILLAGE (ALSO IN TAM KY DISTRICT) BY THE NVA. CONFIDENTIAL

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(WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF THIS REPORT.)

5. QUANG NGAI WAS RELATIVELY QUIET. IN BINH SON DISTRICT PEOPLE ARE REPORTED TO BE RETURNING TO THE VILLAGES OF BINH THIEN AND BINH THONG WHENCE THEY HAD FLED THE WEEK BEFORE. COMMUNISTS CONTINUE TO HARASS THE OUTPOSTS IN THE AREA REOCCUPIED BY GOVERNMENT TROOPS. FIVE VILLAGE AND HAMLET OFFICIALS WERE ASSASSINATED DURING THE WEEK, 4 OF THEM IN ONE INCIDENT IN TU THANH VILLAGE OF TU NGHIA DISTRICT. IN PHO TRONG VILLAGE OF DUC PHO DISTRICT THE COMMUNISTS ABDUCTED 8 CHILDREN.

6. ICCS:

IN ICCS REGION II THE IRANIANS CONDUCTED ONE OBSERVATION DURING THE WEEK.

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AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 6 SAIGON 7732

PART VI - MR 2

1. SITUATION SUMMARY: OVERALL MILITARY ACTIVITY CONTINUED
TO DECLINE IN MR II OVER THE PAST WEEK AS REDUCED FIGHTING ALONG
THE NORTHERN COAST BALANCED A SLIGHTLY HIGHER LEVEL OF ACTION IN

THE NORTHERN HIGHLANDS. MR II HEADQUARTERS IN NHA TRANG BRIEFED 149 INCIDENTS LAST WEEK, DOWN FROM 165 THE PREVIOUS WEEK. INCIDENTS IN BINH DINH DROPPED TO 52 FROM 59. INCIDENTS IN KONTUM INCREASED FROM 44 TO 49. OTHER INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED IN PLEIKU (18), PHU YEN 10), BINH THUAN (8), QUANG DUC AND TUYEN DUC (FOUR EACH), DARLAC (3), AND KHANH HOA (1). RVNAF CASUALTIES WERE LISTED AT 50 KIA, 187 WIA, AND 17 MIA. COMMUNIST CASUALTIES WERE GIVEN AS 381 KIA AND 3 CIA. AIR STRIKES TOOK PLACE IN BINH DINH (119) AND KONTUM (72).

2. KONTUM/PLEIKU: THE VO DINH OPERATION IS STILL HALTED NEAR EO GIA TWELVE KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF KONTUM CITY, AND INTENSE ATTACKS BY FIRE CONTINUE ON ARVN UNITS IN THE AREA. IN THE HEAVIEST SHELLING OF THE WEEK, ELEMENTS OF THE 44TH REGIMENT RECEIVED SOME 200 105MM HOWITZER AND 82MM MORTAR ROUNDS ON JUNE 4, SUSTAINING 2 KIA AND 7 WIA. ONE BATTALION OF THE 53RD REGIMENT HAS MOVED FROM THE CHU PAO PASS TO JOIN THE 41ST AND 44TH REGIMENTS AT EO GIO. THE REST OF THE 53RD IS ALSO REPORTED MOVING TO KONTUM FROM BAN ME THUOT. ON JUNE 9, VNAF BEGAN AIRLIFTING THE CIVILIAN POPULATION OUT OF THE ISOLATED GVN OUTPOSTS AT MANG BUK AND CHUONG NGHIA TO KONTUM CITY IN ANTICIPATION OF NCOMMUNIST ATTACKS ON BOTH LOCATIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. OUR PROVREP REPORTS SOME 500 OF 5,500 PERSONS TO BE MOVED HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED AT A REFUGEE CENTER NEAR KONTUM CITY. ON JUNE 10, EIGHT ROCKET ATTACKS ON TARGETS AROUND PLEIKU CITY ACCOMPANIED A SHELLING AND GROUND ATTACK WHICH FORCED ELEMENTS OF THE 22ND RANGER GROUP OUT OF FIRE SUPPORT BASE 261. A RANGER COUNTER-ATTACK TEN HOURS LATER RETOOK THE BASE WHICH IS 11 KMS WEST OF PLEIKU CITY. FRIENDLY LOSSES WERE GIVEN AS 7 KIA, 25 WIA AND 12 MIA WITH ENEMY LOSSES PUT AT 25 KIA.

3. BINH DINH/PHU YEN: ACTIVITY IN BINH DINH IS STILL ABOVE NORMAL, ALTHOUGH DECLINING. THE CENTER OF ACTION IS NOW PHU MY DISTRICT EAST OF QL-1 AND THE IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT AREAS OF PHU CAT DISTRICT, CONFIDENTIAL

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WHERE THE ARVN 47TH REGIMENT IS SWEEPING THE NORTHERN FOOTHILLS OF BA MOUNTAIN. ENEMY UNITS ARE RESPONDING WITH LIMITED GROUND ATTACKS AND SHELLING. AN EIGHT-MAN PHU MY SUBSECTOR RECONNAISSANCE TEAM REPORTEDLY AMBUSHED NVA UNITS WEST OF QL-1 IN TWO INCIDENTS ON JUNE 3 AND JUNE 4. NVA CASUALTIES WERE 39 KIA, OF WHOM 29 WERE KILLED BY CLAYMORE MINES; FRIENDLY CASUALTIES WERE 2 KIA AND 3 WIA. THE TEAM CAPTURED A 61MM MORTAR, 4 AK-47S, A K-54 PISTOL, AND A RADIO. TAM QUAN DISTRICT HAS BEEN RELATIVELY QUIET WITH REPORTS THAT THE 12TH NVA REGIMENT HAS PULLED BACK TO THE WEST. TWO BOMB DAMAGE ASSESSMENT UNITS IN NORTHERN BINH KHE DISTRICT REPORTED 60 COMMUNIST KIA AFTER AIR STRIKES IN THE AREA. PHU YEN WAS UNUSUALLY QUIET. HOWEVER, ON JUNE 6, RF UNITS ENGAGED LOCAL GUERRILLA UNITS JUST NORTH OF THE KHANH HOA BORDER KILLING 17 AND SUFFERING ONE KIA.

4. OTHER AREAS: IN DARLAC PROVINCE, IMPLEMENTATION OF A PLAN TO RESETTLE REFUGEES FROM TIEU ATAR AT BAN DON HAS BEEN HELD UP DUE TO FEARS THAT BAN DON MAY ITSELF COME UNDER ATTACK IN THE NEAR FUTURE. (TIEU ATAR WAS ATTACKED AND OVERRUN MAY 30.) THIRTEEN COMMUNISTS WERE REPORTED KILLED JUNE 9 IN BINH THUAN PROVINCE AS A RESULT OF AN RF OPERATION SOME 14 KMS NORTHWEST OF PHAN THIET. NO FRIENDLY CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED.

5. ICCS: AN ICCS/PA&E FUEL TRUCK WAS HIT BY SMALL ARMS FIRE ON JUNE 7, JUST WEST OF AN KHE PASS, ENROUTE TO PLEIKU ON QL-19. ALTHOUGH 240 LITERS OF DIESEL FUEL WERE LOST, THERE WAS NO EXPLOSION OR FIRE, AND NO CASUALTIES. OUR PLEIKU PROV REP REPORTS SOME UNCERTAINTY AS TO WHETHER FRIENDLY OR ENEMY TROOPS WERE RESPONSIBLE. THE REGIONAL PA&E/ICCS SUPPORT MANAGER AT PLEIKU HAS RECEIVED AN ORDER FROM SAIGON CUTTING OFF SHIPMENTS OF MOGAS TO THE BEN HET ICCS SITE. HE IS REPORTEDLY INFORMING COMMUNIST ICCS DELEGATES AT PLEIKU, WHO HAVE REQUESTED FUEL DELIVERIES, THAT THE CUTOFF WILL BE LIFTED ONLY WHEN THE SITE IS ACTUALLY OCCUPIED BY ICCS DELEGATES.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 4 OF 6 SAIGON 7732

PART VII - MR 3

1. INTELLIGENCE INDICATIONS OF A NVA/VC CAMPAIGN OF HIGH MILITARY ACTIVITY THROUGH JULY APPEAR TO BE BORNE OUT BY CONTINUED WIDE-SPREAD ATTACKS THROUGHOUT MR3 DOMINATED BY HEAVY FIGHTING AT BEN CAT WITH HIGH POINTS ALSO IN LONG KHANH, HAU NGHIA, AND TAY NINH PROVINCES. THERE WERE 292 MILITARY INCIDENTS IN THE REPORTING PERIOD COMPARED WITH 286 IN THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND A WEEKLY NORM OF 164. GVN FORCES OVERCAME DETERMINED NVA/VC RESISTANCE TO RECOVER AN DIEN HAMLET AND BEGAN A PUSH TOWARD THE OTHER TWO GVN OUTPOSTS ON PROVINCIAL ROUTE 7 OVERRUN ON MAY 16 (RACH BAP AND OUTPOST 82) WITH A CASUALTY RATIO (KIA) OF OVER 4/1 AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS (353/81). AT THE END OF THE PERIOD CONTINUED HEAVY FIGHTING AND FURTHER NVA/VC STIFF RESISTANCE GAVE ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE THAT THE COMMUNISTS ATTACH SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO THIS AREA AT THIS TIME.

2. DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD BINH DUONG AGAIN LED IN NUMBER OF INCIDENTS WITH 128 FOLLOWED BY TAY NINH WITH 42, HAU NGHIA WITH 31 AND LONG KHANH WITH 23. MR3 HEADQUARTERS LISTED 45 GROUND CONTACTS, 147 ATTACKS BY FIRE, AND 19 COMBINED GROUND AND ABF ATTACKS. MININGS ROSE TO AN AVERAGE LEVEL OF 48 (COMPARED WITH A LOW 33 DURING THE PREVIOUS WEEK) AND THERE WERE 33 MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENTS INCLUDING 21 SMALL ARMS HARASSMENTS AND ONE TERRORIST ATTACK.

3. COMMUNIST GUNNERS FIRED 3,402 ARTILLERY AND MORTAR ROUNDS, WELL ABOVE THE 2,746 REPORTED LAST WEEK. GVN ARTILLERY DECLINED SOMEWHAT TO 48,791 ROUNDS FOR THE WEEK COMPARED WITH LAST WEEK'S HIGH OF 57,383. VNAF SORTIES JUMPED TO 368 COMPARED WITH 262 THE PREVIOUS WEEK. VNAF REPORTED 635 COMMUNISTS KILLED BY AIR AND 38 SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS. FRIENDLY AIR LOSSES WERE LIMITED TO ONE SLIGHTLY DAMAGED HELICOPTER AND WOUNDED PILOT CAUSED BY COMMUNIST GROUND FIRE IN LONG THANH DISTRICT OF BIEN HOA PROVINCE.

4. TOTAL CASUALTIES REPORTED BY MR3 HQS FOR THE GVN WERE 119 KIA (INCLUDING 11 CIVILIANS), 608 WIA (INCLUDING 42 CIVILIANS) AND 11 MIA. COMMUNIST LOSSES WERE SET AT 223 KIA, 11 CIA AND 9 CONFIDENTIAL

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RALLIERS.

5. COMMUNIST FORCES STEPPED UP ATTACKS AGAINST 5 REGIONAL FORCE OUTPOSTS IN SOUTHERN TAY NINH WITHIN 2 KMS OF ROUTES 1 AND 22. XOM VOI OUTPOST IN HIEU THIEN DISTRICT, MANNED BY A PF PLATOON, WAS HIT BY OVER 400 ROUNDS OF ROCKET AND MORTAR FIRE DURING THE PAST WEEK. JUST SIX KMS TO THE NORTH TAM LANH OUTPOST MANNED BY AN RF COMPANY RECEIVED OVER 650 ROUNDS OF ROCKET AND MORTAR DURING THE SAME PERIOD BEFORE THE COMPANY FINALLY WITHDREW ON THE NIGHT OF JUNE 10 TO THE NEXT RF COMPANY OUTPOST IN KHIEM HANH.

6. IN LONG KHANH PROVINCE COMMUNIST FORCES EXTENDED THEIR OCCUPATION OF THE TWO HAMLETS OCCUPIED LAST WEEK TO A THIRD SMALL COMMUNITY. EARLY IN THE WEEK A VC/NVA FORCE ENTERED THE THAI THIEN CATHOLIC RESETTLEMENT AREA ON ROUTE 1 AND ORDERED THE LOCAL INHABITANTS TO DEPART WITHIN THREE DAYS. WHEN THIS ORDER WAS IGNORED, COMMUNIST FORCES RETURNED SEVERAL DAYS LATER AND, ACCORDING TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES, BURNED APPROXIMATELY 50 HOUSES. DURING THIS SAME PERIOD APPROXIMATELY 80 CIVILIANS WERE ABDUCTED IN LONG KHANH PRESUMABLY TO PROVIDE LABOR SUPPORT FOR ENEMY ACTIVITY. IN LONG KHANH'S KIEM TAN DISTRICT THE ARVN 81ST AIRBORNE UNCOVERED A LARGE COMMUNIST AMMO DEPOT CONTAINING 29 CREW-SERVED WEAPONS, OVER 200 AK-47'S, 10,000 CASES OF AK-47 AMMUNITION, 1,000 ROUNDS OF B-40 ROCKETS, 2,000 MORTAR ROUNDS, AND A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF OTHER WAR MATERIALS. AN ELEMENT OF THE SAME AIRBORNE UNIT CAPTURED 10,000 KILOS OF RICE IN NEIGHBORING BIEN HOA.

7. ISOLATED PHUOC LONG PROVINCE ONCE AGAIN WAS ABLE, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY, TO SECURE ROUTE QL 14 ALLOWING CIVILIAN AND MILITARY TRAFFIC TO MOVE TO MR2 THROUGH QUANG DUC PROVINCE.

8. ICCS: FOLLOWING SEVERAL WEEKS OF INTERMITTENT PRESENCE AT THE LAM SON AND CU CHI ICCS SUBREGIONAL SITES, THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN TEAMS OFFICIALLY MOVED OUT OF THESE POSTS LOCK, STOCK AND FLAG, PLEADING LACK OF SECURITY AS THEIR GROUNDS FOR DEPARTURE.

MEANWHILE, BACK IN ICCS REGION V, BIEN HOA, THE HUNGARIANS HAVE REAPPEARED AT THIS REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS AFTER A BRIEF ABSENCE IN THE WAKE OF THE ROCKET ATTACK ON BIEN HOA JUNE 3. AT PRESENT, FEW COMMUNIST TEAM MEMBERS ARE LIVING AT BIEN HOA AND EVEN THESE ARE REPORTED TO BE FREQUENTLY SPENDING THEIR NIGHTS IN SAIGON. INDODEL REPORTS THAT THEIR OPERATIONS THIS WEEK WERE LIMITED TO AN "OBSERVA-CONFIDENTIAL

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TION" OF GVN AMMUNITION DESTRUCTION IN BIEN HOA. THE INDONESIANS ATTRIBUTED THIS LOW ACTIVITY PARTLY TO LACK OF ICCS FUNDS AND SEVERE LIMITATIONS ON GASOLINE, WHICH HAS INHIBITED TEAM MOVEMENT. BOTH INDONESIAN AND IRANIAN TEAMS ARE REPORTEDLY READY TO INSPECT THE BEN CAT AREA BUT HAVE BEEN HELD BACK
GY T V CONTINUED INSECURITY IN
THAT AREA#.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 5 OF 6 SAIGON 7732

PART VIII MR-4

1. SECURITY SITUATION: (A) OVERALL ACTIVITY: MILITARY
ACTIVITY CONTINUED TO DECLINE THROUGHOUT THE DELTA. SOURCES
FROM SEVERAL PROVINCES BELIEVE CURRENT LULL IS RESTING PERIOD
PRIOR TO REGULAR MID-MONTH HIGHPOINT. ACTIVITY IS EXPECTED
TO PICK UP AGAIN IN ABOUT A WEEK. CORPS REPORTS 310 INCIDENTS
(362 LAST WEEK) INCLUDING 33 GROUND ATTACKS (52), 205 ABF (218),
52 HARASSMENTS (76), 2 SABOTAGE (6) AND 18 TERRORIST INCIDENTS
(10). LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES DECLINED WITH GVN REPORTING 138
KIA (182), 690 WIA (868), 43 MIA (96) AND NO CREW-SERVED (18)
AND 95 INDIVIDUAL (213) WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 616 VC/NVA
KIA (653), 19 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS CAPTURED (9) AND 23 CREW-
SERVED (27) AND 181 INDIVIDUAL (158) WEAPONS SEIZED.

B. NORTHERN DELTA: IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE, THE LEVEL OF
ACTIVITY CONTINUED TO DECREASE. MOST ACTIVE DISTRICT THIS WEEK
WAS GIAO DUC WHERE DONG THAP I REGIMENT IS OPERATING IN
THE WEST AND SOUTHWEST. 9TH ARVN DIVISION HAS DISPATCHED
THREE BATTALIONS TO GIAO DUC AND BORDERING AREAS OF KIEN
PHONG TO COUNTER THE DONG THAP I. GVN TERRITORIAL FORCES HAVE
ALSO BEEN FAIRLY AGGRESSIVE IN THE AREA. 512TH RF BATTALION
CLAIMS 20 VC KIA IN TWO CONTACTS IN THANH HUNG AND AN THAI
DONG VILLAGES, WHILE FOUR PF PLATOONS FROM BA NOI OB KILLED
20 VC 5 KM NE OF THE DISTRICT TOWN, SUFFERING ONE PF WOUNDED.

OTHER AREA OF ACTIVITY IN DINH TUONG WAS SECTION OF ROUTE 29 (ROAD TO MOC HOA) THROUGH CAI LAY DISTRICT WHERE SEVERAL INCIDENTS OF SMALL ARMS AND M-79 FIRE AT BUSES HAVE OCCURRED SINCE JUNE 7. MOST SERIOUS WAS DETONATION OF A MINE BY A CIVILIAN BUS IN MY PHUOC TAY VILLAGE AT NOON RESULTING IN 7 KILLED AND AT LEAST 10 WOUNDED. ACTIVITY IN KIEN PHONG PROVINCE DECLINED BUT REMAINED HEAVY IN KIEN VAN DISTRICT WHERE TWO MORE OUTPOSTS WERE LOST TO THE 502B VC BATTALION AND 261B BATTALION OF VC DONG THAP I REGIMENT. TWO OTHER OUTPOSTS IN MY AN DISTRICT ARE UNDER STRONG PRESSURE FROM Z-15 NVA REGIMENT AND LOCAL SAPPERS. CONTINUING VC/NVA PRESSURE IN THIS AREA IS APPARENTLY AN EFFORT TO ESTABLISH A REAR-SERVICE COMPLEX TO REPLACE TRI PHAP. CHAU DOC PROVINCE WAS QUIET, BUT NORMALLY PEACEFUL GO CONG PROVINCE

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REPORTS AN ATTACK (WITH AID OF VC PENETRATORS) ON A PSDF TEAM 2KM WEST OF HOA DONG DISTRICT RESULTING IN ONE PSDF KIA, 3 WIA AND 6 MIA.

C. CENTRAL DELTA: IN VINH BINH PROVINCE, CAU KE DISTRICT TOWN WAS SHELLED THREE TIMES ON JUNE 9 RESULTING IN 11 WOUNDED, INCLUDING THE DEPUTY DISTRICT CHIEF FOR ADMINISTRATION. IN ANOTHER SERIOUS INCIDENT, TERRORISTS PLANTED A MINE IN A COFFEE SHOP FREQUENTED BY GVN PERSONNEL IN THE PHUOC HUNG VILLAGE MARKET, TRA CU DISTRICT. SEVEN WERE KILLED AND FOUR WOUNDED. VINH LONG PROVINCE WAS FAIRLY QUIET WITH MOST INCIDENTS CONSISTING OF BOOBY TRAPS, SMALL CONTACTS AND SNIPINGS. IN SA DEC, THE ONLY SERIOUS INCIDENT WAS THE FIRING OF M-79 ROUNDS AND GRENADES INTO THE THANH PHU HAMLET OFFICE, MY AN HUNG (V), LAP VO (D). THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES, BUT THE HAMLET OFFICE WAS HEAVILY DAMAGED. OTHER INCIDENTS RESULTED FROM BOOBY TRAPS EXCEPT FOR ONE KIDNAPPING. SA DEC S-2 EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER REPORTED PRESENCE OF TWO VC LOCAL FORCES BATTALIONS FROM KIEN PHONG (502A AND B) AND WATER-SAPPER AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT UNITS ON BINH THANH ISLAND, WHICH IS APPARENTLY USED AS REST AREA FOR VC/NVA TROOPS. KIEN HOA PROVINCE REPORTS SLIGHTLY INCREASED ACTIVITY. ALMOST ALL VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS RESULTED FROM A FEW ROUNDS OF ASSORTED CALIBRE FIRE INTO ISOLATED OUTPOSTS. IN TWO MORE SERIOUS INCIDENTS, 3 RF WERE KILLED AND 14 WOUNDED WHEN THEIR TRUCK RECEIVED B-40 FIRE ON THE ROAD FROM GIONG TROM DISTRICT TO BEN TRE AT 1630 HOURS, AND 3 RF WERE KILLED AND 9 WOUNDED BY RIFLE GRENADES FIRED INTO 453RD RF BATTALION POSITION IN LUONG PHU (V), GIONG TROM (D). THE CHIEF OF MY CHANH HOA VILLAGE, BA TRI (D) WAS ASSASSINATED THE MORNING OF JUNE 9. SECTOR BELIEVES VC INTENTIONS ARE TO INTENSIFY ACTIVITY IN GIONG TROM AND PHUOC HUNG DISTRICTS. IN PHONG DINH PROVINCE, THE SITUATION HAS IMPROVED SOMEWHAT IN THE AREA SOUTH OF THE HIGHWAY 4/ROUTE 31 INTERSECTION WHERE 32ND REGIMENT/21ST ARVN DIVISION BEGAN OPERATIONS JUNE 3. SECTOR S-3 BELIEVES 303RD AND 307TH VC BATTALIONS HAVE WITHDRAWN TO CHUONG THIEN BORDER AREA, THUS

RELIEVING PRESSURE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF HIGHWAY 4. HOWEVER,
VC HAVE AVOIDED CONTACT AND ARE STILL CAPABLE OF TARGETING GVN
POSITIONS IN THE AREA. THEY ATTACKED PHUNG SON OP 8 KM NW OF
PHUNG HIEP DISTRICT TOWN THE MORNING OF JUNE 11. COMMUNICATIONS
WERE LOST, BUT THREE OF THE RF DEFENDERS REPORTEDLY HAVE SHOWN
UP AT A NEARBY OB. DT-1 BATTALION AND A LOCAL FORCE COMPANY ARE
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STILL REPORTED TO BE IN PHONG THUAN DISTRICT.

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 OMB-01 ACDA-19

DPW-01 DRC-01 /184 W

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R 120858Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5708

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USLO PEKING
RUHUYQASGCIN ZAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
COMUSMZNTHAI
DAO/ SAIGON/AOSOP-OR
RHMSMVXSUSDEL FPJMT SAIGON
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D. KIEN GIANG PROVINCE: ACTIVITY PICKED UP SLIGHTLY FROM LAST WEEK'S LULL WITH DECREASED ACTIVITY IN THANH AND INCREASED ACTIVITY IN KIEN AN DISTRICTS. THE 476/3 RF COMPANY SCORED A MINOR VICTORY IN HIEU LE DISTRICT BY KILLING 14 VC/NVA WHILE SUFFERING ONLY 2 WIA. PROVINCE OFFICIALS ARE EMPHASIZING RECRUITING AND ELIMINATION OF DRAFT DODGERS AND FLOWER SOLDIERS. THESE PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN BLAMED IN PART FOR KIEN GIANG'S SECURITY PROBLEMS AND LOSS OF 78 OPERATING BASES THIS YEAR. OFFICIALS APPEAR SINCERE IN THIS EFFORT IN VIEW OF OBVIOUS IMPACT OF THESE PROBLEMS ON THE PROVINCE AND STRONG PRESSURE FROM HIGHER AUTHORITIES.

E. SOUTHERN DELTA: ACTIVITY IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE WAS LIGHT

WITH NO GROUND
ATTACKS. OUTPOST ACTIVITY
RTROF. IN BAC
IU LEVEL OF ACTIVITY CONTINUED TO DROP FOR
THE FOURTH CONSECUTIVE WEEK. MAIN AREA OF CONCERN IS VINH CHAU DISTRICT WHERE THE VC PHU LOI I BATTALION AND DISTRICT LOCAL FORCE UNITS LAUNCHED SHELLINGS AND HARASSMENTS AGAINST OB'S IN NORTHERN AND EASTERN PARTS OF THE DISTRICT. THE DISTRICT CHIEF FEELS VC GAINS THERE MAY BECOME PERMANENT IF GVN REINFORCEMENTS DO NOT BECOME AVAILABLE. 3RD TROOP/12TH ARMORED CAVALRY SQUADRON HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO VINH CHAU BUT HAS CONDUCTED ONLY ONE OPERATION IN LAST FIVE DAYS DUE TO LACK OF FUEL. SECTOR S-2 ALSO EXPECTS INCREASED ACTIVITY IN PHUOC LONG/VINH LOI/NGA NAM DISTRICT TRI-BORDER AREA WHERE VINH LOC OB RECEIVED ABF'S AND A GROUND ATTACK. ACTIVITY IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE HAS QUIETED WITH AN AVERAGE OF SEVEN INCIDENTS PER DAY MOST OF THE WEEK. HUNG LONG DISTRICT TOWN WAS MORTARED

ON FIVE OCCASIONS BUT ONLY ONE SOLDIER WAS WOUNDED. THUY LIEU VILLAGE OUTPOST AND ANOTHER NEARBY OUTPOST RECEIVED SHELLINGS AND GROUND ATTACKS BUT WERE HELD AT A COST OF ONE GVN KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED. (THUY LIEU WAS LOST THREE WEEKS AGO AND SUBSEQUENTLY RETAKEN.) IN AN XUYEN PROVINCE, ACTIVITY WAS CONCENTRATED IN SONG ONG DOC DISTRICT. AN ELEMENT OF 31ST REGIMENT/21ST ARVN DIVISION WAS AIRLIFTED INTO THE DISTRICT OVER THE WEEKEND
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AND RE-ESTABLISHED THREE OF THE 12 RECENTLY OVERRUN OB'S. THE SITUATION SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST OF CAMAU REMAINS UNCHANGED WITH MINOR CONTACTS REPORTED AND NEITHER SIDE MAKING SIGNIFICANT GAINS. MARTIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMISTICE, PRESS COMMENTS, TREATY VIOLATION, POLITICAL SITUATION, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, COMMUNISTS, TRUCE OBSERVERS, PEACE TALKS, COMBAT CASUALTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SAIGON07732
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740153-0229
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740652/aaaabske.tel
Line Count: 834
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 16
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIET-NAM CEASE-FIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT JUNE 5 - JUNE 11, 1974 CINCPAC FOR POLAD
TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, VS, US, VN, TPJMC, FPJMT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005